

REMARKS

The opportunity of this amendment is being taken to make the pending group of rejected claims 24 – 31 more specific. New claims 32 – 41 are also more specific than the claims acted upon in the pending Office Action. Since no grounds of rejection other than double patenting have been advanced, it is believed that the remaining claims 24, 26 – 28 and 31 – 41 are clearly patentable.

A Terminal Disclaimer is being filed herewith in response to the double patenting rejection. This is not to be taken as an admission that double patenting exists, and this statement is not to be taken as an assertion that it does not. No determination has been made. The Terminal Disclaimer is being filed as a matter of course, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application.

Information Disclosure Statements

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith to cite an international search report in the corresponding PCT application that was previously submitted but not initialed on the form 1449 returned with a Notice of Allowance mailed August 26, 2004. Also being cited are the international preliminary examination report and written opinion in the corresponding PCT application.


Also, another Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was mailed February 22, 2005 for filing in the present application. An office action from the Chinese Patent Office in a corresponding Chinese application was submitted therewith.

Consideration of these two documents and making them of record in the file of the present application are requested.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of its allowance is solicited. However, if the Examiner has any further matters that need to be resolved, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at 415-318-1163 would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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